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UNITED STATES SENATE  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN J. W. FULBRIGHT

The Committee on Foreign Relations has agreed to establish an Ad Hoc Subcommittee on United States Security Agreements and Commitments Abroad.

The purpose of the Subcommittee will be to make a detailed review of the international military commitments of the United States and their relationship to foreign policy. It is hoped that this review will result in constructive recommendations concerning the involvement of United States armed forces abroad, the impact of United States overseas commitments, and the relationship between foreign policy commitments and the military capacity to honor them. The situation in Vietnam is excluded from the scope of the Subcommittee's study, because it raises a number of complicated and unique questions which will continue to receive the close attention of the full Committee.

Senator Stuart Symington of Missouri has agreed to serve as Chairman of the Subcommittee. I also intend to be an active member of it. The other members will be Senators John Sparkman of Alabama, Mike Mansfield of Montana, George D. Aiken of Vermont, John Sherman Cooper of Kentucky, and Jacob K. Javits of New York.

The Subcommittee will examine the foreign policy implications of such facts as these:

--By treaty the United States may now be committed, under varying circumstances, to use its armed forces in defense of 42 countries.

--Five major Congressional resolutions delegate various degrees of authority to the President to involve

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The United States in military, economic, or political action abroad (in Formosa and the Pescadores, the Middle East, Berlin, Cuba, and Southeast Asia).

--The United States currently has an elaborate worldwide network of military installations.

--Thirty-two percent of all Americans under arms are stationed outside the United States. There are 50 military aid missions abroad.

--This year troop deployments abroad will cost \$3.5 billion in foreign exchange. The net foreign exchange costs from 1961 to 1967 total \$17.4 billion.

--Bilateral economic aid is provided to 73 countries and military aid to 48 countries.

--Military programs for the exchange of persons currently are estimated to be at least triple in size to civilian exchange programs.

--The number of foreign country specialists supported annually by the United States, directly or indirectly, from Defense Department funds is estimated at double the number supported by all other federal funds, the latter including appropriations for the Department of State, AID, and USIA.

--The proposed 1970 budget estimates an expenditure of \$81.5 billion for national defense plus \$3.7 billion for international affairs and finance.

These foreign commitments -- and other foreign involvements which may be short of commitments -- obviously have a significant impact on United States diplomacy, and vice versa. It is not possible to evaluate American foreign policy without a full understanding of American political, military, and economic commitments abroad. This is why the Foreign Relations Committee has created this Ad Hoc Subcommittee.

It is anticipated that the Subcommittee will hold hearings, in both Public and executive session, in due course. But its first task will be the collection and analysis of a large body of data in an objective and dispassionate manner.

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